

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #70

Summer Announcement #64, Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing Schedules

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 114,000 Chinook salmon through July 16 is well below the historical average of 142,500 for this date. Based on the assessment information to date, the current projection is for a total run size slightly better than the poor run of 2012.

The 2013 Chinook salmon run is coming to an end in the middle river. Subsistence fishing restrictions and schedules are being relaxed in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, & 5-C (from Illinois Creek upstream to regulatory markers 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek, which includes the communities of Tanana and Rampart as well as the area near the Yukon River Bridge.):

The 48-hour subsistence salmon fishing period scheduled to begin 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 19, will be delayed and reduced to a 24-hour subsistence salmon fishing period.

Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, July 20, until 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 21. Gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

Effective, 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 23, Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C will return to the regular subsistence salmon fishing schedule which consists of two 48-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays until 6:00 p.m. Thursdays, and from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Sundays. Fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less and Chinook salmon may be kept when caught in fish wheels.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or in Fairbanks call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Fairbanks at 459-7274. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can be contacted in Fairbanks at 456-0418.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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